

MEMBERS, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr. Steven R. Moore, District I Mr. Thomas S. Crumpton, Jr., District II
Rev. William S. "Bill" Rinehart, District III Mr. Marion E. Lyles, District IV
Mr. H. Frank Ables, Jr., District V

MINUTES, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

The Oconee County Council met Tuesday, June 27, 2006 at 3:00 pm in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Council Members present.

Press:

Members of the press notified (via mail): Keowee Courier, Westminster News, Daily Journal, Anderson Independent, WGOG Radio, WYFF TV, WLOS TV, WSNW Radio & WIRX Radio.

Members of the press present: Dick Mangrum – WGOG Radio, Dave Williams – Anderson Independent, Brett McLaughlin – Daily Journal & WYFF TV.

Other Organizations Notified:

Also notified were the Oconee County Tax Payers Association, Citizens for Recreation Center and the Oconee County Democratic Party.

Call to Order:

Chairman Ables called the meeting to order.

Invocation:

Mr. Rinehart gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mr. Lyles led the pledge of allegiance to the US Flag.

Minutes:

Mr. Lyles made a motion, seconded by Mr. Rinehart, approved 4 – 0 (Mr. Moore abstained due to his being absent from the June 20th meeting) that the minutes of the regular meeting held June 20, 2006 be adopted as printed.

Public Comment Session:

Mr. Albert Reiger addressed Council in favor of moving forward with reassessment this year.

Mr. John Powell, Mr. Steve Chase, Mr. Ed Little & Mr. Jim Doyle addressed Council in favor of delaying reassessment.

Mr. A. C. Price addressed Council regarding the priority of spending and requested that funds be expended on the County roadways.

Ms. Evon Bowens addressed Council regarding taxes on properties belonging to minorities.

Mr. Efford Haynes addressed Council requesting that reassessment be delayed.

Mr. B. J. Littleton addressed Council complimenting Council Member Steven Moore, District I on his representation of all the citizens of the County.

Ordinance 2006-19:

Mr. Rinehart made a motion that Ordinance 2006-19, "AN ORDINANCE FORMALLY ADOPTING VALUES ESTABLISHED BY THE COUNTY ASSESSOR AND SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE BASED ON A DECEMBER 31, 2005 VALUATION DATE FOR TAX YEAR 2006" be adopted on third and final reading with an amendment that Oconee County voluntarily limit the reassessment increase to fifteen (15%) percent this year. Mr. Rinehart's motion died for lack of a second.

Mr. Lyles then made a motion, seconded by Mr. Crumpton, approved 3 – 2 (Mr. Moore & Mr. Rinehart voting against) that Ordinance 2006-19, "AN ORDINANCE FORMALLY ADOPTING VALUES ESTABLISHED BY THE COUNTY ASSESSOR AND SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE BASED ON A DECEMBER 31, 2005 VALUATION DATE FOR TAX YEAR 2006" be adopted on third and final reading.

Ordinance 2006-15:

Mr. Moore made a motion, seconded by Mr. Rinehart, approved 5 – 0 that Ordinance 2006-15, “THE 2006-2007 BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE FOR OCONEE COUNTY” be amended to include the following:

- (1) The organizational chart be removed from the budget ordinance.
- (2) School, Seminars & Training be under the purview of the County Administrator.

Mr. Rinehart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ables, defeated 3 - 2 (Mr. Rinehart & Mr. Ables voting for / Mr. Moore, Mr. Crumpton & Mr. Lyles voting against) that the part time secretary in the Parks, Recreation & Tourism Department be upgraded to an administrative assistant.

Mr. Rinehart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Crumpton, approved 4 – 1 (Mr. Moore voting against) that Ordinance 2006-15, “THE 2006-2007 BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE FOR OCONEE COUNTY” as amended, be adopted on third and final reading.

Ordinance 2006-20:

Second reading of Ordinance 2006-20, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 6 OF ORDINANCE 99-14, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS ORDINANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS CONTAINED IN CHAPTER 7 & ABOLISHING CHAPTER 7” was removed from the agenda.

Ordinance 2006-17:

Mr. Rinehart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Moore, approved 5 – 0 that Ordinance 2006-17, “AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE SUSPENSION OF SUNDAY WORK PROHIBITIONS UNDER SOUTH CAROLINA LAW” be adopted on first reading.

Resolution 2006-12:

Mr. Crumpton made a motion, seconded by Mr. Moore, approved 5 – 0 that Resolution 2006-12, “A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE ALL NATURAL HAZARDS RISK ASSESSMENT AND MITIGATION PLAN FOR THE APPALACHIAN REGION OF SOUTH CAROLINA” be adopted on first and final reading.

Road & Transportation (Contingency):

Mr. Moore made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ables, approved 5 – 0 that the bid for tar and gravel of Timberlake Drive (SE 147) be awarded to Pickens Construction, Inc. who was low bid at \$40,942 with the additional \$942 coming from contingency. (See attached bid sheet)

Rock Quarry:

Mr. Crumpton made a motion, seconded by Mr. Rinehart, approved 5 – 0 that the contract with Southern Blasting Services, Inc. for blasting at the Rock Quarry be renewed at a cost of \$300,740. (See attached bid sheet)

Council Committee Reports:

There were no Council Committee reports.

Administrator's Report:

Mr. Hendricks reported to Council that due to the heavy rains on Monday, June 26, 2006 we had multiple County roadways washed out.

Council Districts:

Mr. Lyles made a motion, seconded by Mr. Crumpton, approved 5 – 0 that Council consider the adoption a resolution to place a referendum on the November ballot for the voters to determine if there should be seven (7) Council Districts in Oconee County.

Council/Capital Projects Commission Meeting:

Mr. Ables informed those present that Council would be meeting with the Capital Projects Tax Commission Wednesday, June 28, 2006 at 5:00 pm in Council Chambers.

Adjourn:

Adjourn: 4:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Opal O. Green,
Clerk to Council